

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 USUN N 00244 01 OF 02 290257Z

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AF-08 ARA-06

NEA-10 /111 W

-----290338Z 103128 /14

R 290214Z JAN 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2194

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0244

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, UN

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN PRESS CONFERENCE AT UN HEADQUARTERS,
JANUARY 26; SOUTH KOREAN REBUTTAL

1. SUMMARY: NORTH KOREA'S PERMANENT OBSERVER TO UN KWON, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE AT UN HEADQUARTERS, JANUARY 26, TO READ EXCERPTS FROM JANUARY 25 NORTH KOREAN LETTER TO "POLITICAL PARTIES, PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE OF ALL STRATA IN SOUTH KOREA AND COMPATRIOTS OVERSEAS." KWON'S LATER COMMENTS TO PRESS INDICATED NO CHANGE IN NORTH KOREAN POSITIONS ON KOREAN QUESTION. IN REBUTTAL TO NORTH KOREAN LETTER, REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) OBSERVER OFFICE SUBSEQUENTLY CIRCULATED JANUARY 27 "KOREA HERALD" EDITORIAL ENTITLED "PYONGYANG'S FAMILIAR CLICHE". END SUMMARY.

2. KWON READ OUT PARTS OF THE LETTER ADOPTED IN PYONGYANG ON JANUARY 25. (FULL TEXT CIRCULATED AS PRESS RELEASE.)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 USUN N 00244 01 OF 02 290257Z

AMONGST EXCERPTS SELECTED BY KWON WERE THE FOLLOWING:

(A) "A GREAT ALLIANCE OF THE SOCIALIST FORCES OF THE NORTH AND THE PATRIOTIC DEMOCRATIC FORCES OF THE SOUTH DESIROUS OF REUNIFICATION MUST BE REALISED FOR THE INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY ..."

(B) "THE TENSION BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH MUST BE EASED AND THE DANGER OF A NUCLEAR WAR REMOVED FOR THE INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY ..."

(C) "MOREOVER, THE CONSTANT DANGER OF WAR CANNOT BE REMOVED UNDER THE CONDITION WHERE FOREIGN TROOPS ARE PRESENT AND ATOMIC AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE DEPLOYED IN THE COUNTRY ..."

(D) "THE NUCLEAR BASE IN SOUTH KOREA MUST BE DISMANTLED, ALL THE WEAPONS OF DESTRUCTION INCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS BE SHIPPED OUT FORTHWITH AND THE US TROOPS BE UNCONDITIONALLY WITHDRAWN."

(E) "ALONG WITH THIS, THE ARMED FORCES OF THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH MUST BE DRASTICALLY CUT AND THE MILITARY SPENDING BE REDUCED TO BE EARMARKED FOR THE STABILITY AND BETTERMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S LIVING ..."

(F) "AT THE SAME TIME, WE PROPOSE TO DEMAND THE RELEVANT MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO HOLD DISARMAMENT TALKS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE US TROOPS, DISCONTINUATION OF THE ARMS REINFORCEMENT AND ARMS RACE, REDUCTION OR ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENT AND STOPPAGE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF WEAPONS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES."

(G) "IF THE PRESENT SOUTH KOREAN AUTHORITIES WITHDRAW THE 'TWO KOREAS' POLICY, RENOUNCE 'ANTI-COMMUNISM', STOP THE SUPPRESSION OF THE PATRIOTIC PEOPLE AND DEMOCRATIC PERSONAGES AND GIVE UP THE WAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 USUN N 00244 01 OF 02 290257Z

POLICY ENFORCED UNDER THE PRETEXT OF THE 'THREAT OF SOUTHWARD INVASION', WE WILL AGAIN SIT KNEE TO KNEE WITH THEM AND WILL NOT OPPOSE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE."

3. RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS FROM PRESS, KWON REPORTEDLY EXPLAINED THAT THERE WERE ASPECTS OF KOREAN QUESTION SUCH AS UN COMMAND AND A PEACE AGREEMENT WHICH MUST BE DISCUSSED WITH THE US AND THERE WERE OTHERS TO BE DISCUSSED WITH SOUTH KOREA. ASKED IF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S APPROACH TO KOREAN QUESTION MIGHT HAVE SOME EFFECT ON CURRENT NORTH KOREAN ACTIONS, KWON REPLIED THAT THE PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY 30TH UNGA ALREADY CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS AND THAT SOLUTION OF KOREAN QUESTION WAS LINKED TO TERMINATION OF OUTSIDE INFLUENCE. KWON CONTINUED THAT IF PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION WANTED TO MAKE THIS MOVE IT WOULD BE, "OF COURSE, A GOOD THING." WHEN ASKED IF NORTH KOREA PREMIER PAK SUNG-CHUL'S CURRENT VISIT TO MOSCOW WAS TO

GET ARMS OR ECONOMIC AID, KWON PROFESSED IGNORANCE ABOUT THIS.

4. COMMENT: WHILE REFERENCE TO "RELEVANT MILITARY AUTHORITIES" IN NORTH KOREAN LETTER (PARA 2(F) ABOVE) HINTED A POSSIBLE NORTH KOREAN WILLINGNESS TO INCLUDE SOUTH KOREA IN TALKS ON UN COMMAND, KWON'S COMMENT TO PRESS SEEMED TO MAINTAIN NORTH KOREAN POSITION THAT UN COMMAND ISSUE MUST BE DISCUSSED BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND US ALONE. ROK OBSERVER OFFICE HAS DISCERNED NOTHING NEW IN NORTH KOREAN LETTER. IN REBUTTAL, ROK OBSERVER OFFICE HAS CIRCULATED AS PRESS RELEASE TEXT OF JANUARY 27 EDITORIAL FROM "KOREA HERALD" ENTITLED "PYONGYANG'S FAMILIAR CLICHE". ROK OBSERVER OFFICE CONSIDERED THIS TO REFLECT SEOUL'S OFFICIAL REACTION TO NORTH KOREAN LETTER. TEXT OF EDITORIAL FOLLOWS:

QUOTE EDITORIAL CARRIED IN THE KOREA HERALD UNDER TITLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 USUN N 00244 01 OF 02 290257Z

"PYONGYANG'S FAMILIAR CLICHE" ON N. KOREAN PROPOSAL FOR "POLITICAL CONFERENCE" (SEOUL, 27 JANUARY 1977)

NORTH KOREA'S PROPOSAL TO HOLD A SOUTH-NORTH "POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE" TO DISCUSS THE RELAXATION OF TENSION AND THE REMOVAL OF DANGER OF NUCLEAR WAR OFFERS NOTHING NEW OR MEANINGFUL. IN FACT, THE PROPOSAL AIRED OVER PYONGYANG RADIO TUESDAY REPEATS A FAMILIAR CLICHE DESIGNED TO VEIL THE AX THE NORTH ACTUALLY HAS TO GRIND AND, AT THE SAME TIME, MISLEAD THE LESS-INFORMED FOR ITS PROPAGANDA GAIN.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 USUN N 00244 02 OF 02 290316Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /111 W
-----290336Z 103468 /14

R 290214Z JAN 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2195
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 0244

DESPITE ITS ELABORATE, DECEPTIVE PLAUSIBILITY, WHICH USUALLY ADORNS PYONGYANG'S PROPAGANDA ESSAYS, THE NORTH'S LATEST BID GIVES NO REAL, PRACTICAL GROUND FOR CONSTRUCTIVE, FEASIBLE MOVES TOWARD SOLVING THE SOUTH-NORTH QUESTIONS FOR A DURABLE PEACE. IN EFFECT, IT DELIBERATELY EVADES CONCRETE STEPS ALREADY PROPOSED BY THIS REPUBLIC AS ESSENTIAL TO MAKING ANY SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARD SOLIDIFYING KOREAN PEACE.

ALL TOLD, IT IS A VIRTUAL REBUFF TO PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE'S RENEWED PROPOSAL ON JANUARY 12 FOR CONCLUSION OF A SOUTH-NORTH NON-AGGRESSION AGREEMENT AND EARLY RESUMPTION OF THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE WHICH THE NORTH UNILATERALLY SUSPENDED IN 1973.

QUITE INTENTIONALLY, PYONGYANG'S PROPOSAL, INDIRECTLY VOICED THROUGH A NORTH KOREAN WORKERS (COMMUNIST) PARTY'S POLITBURO MEMBER, BLINKS AT THE NO-WAR PACT OFFER GIVEN AS A PRECONDITION FOR U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA. INSTEAD, IT DEMANDS UNCONDITIONAL U.S. MILITARY PULLOUT. IN PLAIN WORDS, THIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 USUN N 00244 02 OF 02 290316Z

MEANS THAT PYONGYANG WANTS REMOVAL OF THE U.S. FORCES, AND WITH IT THE PRINCIPAL WAR DETERRENT FROM KOREA, PRIOR TO ESTABLISHING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE GUARANTEE TO PREVENT RENEWAL OF HOSTILITIES ON THIS PENINSULA.

THE NORTH FURTHER DEMANDS ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM THE SOUTH. THE REASON AGAIN IS OBVIOUS. PYONGYANG KNOWS THAT SUCH TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE AN EFFECTIVE COUNTERBALANCE AGAINST THE NORTH'S MASSIVELY BUILT-UP MILITARY MUSCLE, AND THUS STAND IN THE WAY OF PYONGYANG'S SOUTHWARD ADVENTURISM.

WHAT LURKS BEHIND THE NORTH'S BID FOR THE SO-CALLED POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND NORTH, AND ALSO FOR THE SETTING UP OF A BROAD-BASED SOUTH-NORTH "CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE PEOPLE", IS EQUALLY SELF-EVIDENT. SUCH PROPOSED CONFERENCES, WHICH LACK PRACTICABILITY BECAUSE OF THEIR VAGUE NATURE OR SHEER SIZE OR BOTH, ARE PART OF THE SAME PROPAGANDA GIMMICKS AS THOSE WHICH PYONGYANG USED BEFORE IT UNDERTOOK THE 1950 ARMED INVASION OF THE SOUTH.

IF THE PYONGYANG REGIME WERE TRUTHFULLY INTERESTED IN OPENING THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE ON EASING OF TENSIONS AND EVENTUAL REUNIFICATION BY PEACEFUL MEANS, IT CAN AND SHOULD READILY DO SO BY RESUMING THE SOUTH-NORTH TALKS THROUGH THE RED CROSS SOCIETIES AND THE SOUTH-NORTH COORDINATING COMMITTEE (SNCC).

IT IS TOTALLY ABSURD FOR PYONGYANG TO ADVOCATE SUCH IRRELEVANT AND IMPRACTICAL CONFERENCES, WHILE DELIBERATELY LEAVING THE SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS DIALOGUE STALLED AND THE SNCC PARALYZED. IN TRUTH, PYONGYANG CONTINUES TO REFUSE TO DISCUSS EVEN HUMANITARIAN ISSUES BY REJECTING THE RED CROSS CONVERSATION. MOREOVER, THE NORTH ADAMANTLY REJECTS NORMALIZATION OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE SNCC, A POLITICAL CHANNEL INTENDED PRECISELY FOR THE SOLUTION OF SOUTH-NORTH PROBLEMS.

INDEED, THE NORTH'S POORLY HIDDEN INTENTIONS BEHIND ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 USUN N 00244 02 OF 02 290316Z

LATEST PROPOSAL ARE READILY PERCEIVABLE. ONE SUCH INTENTION IS APPARENTLY TO TRY TO CASH IN ON U.S. PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER'S SUGGESTION FOR A PHASEOUT OF THE U.S. FORCES IN KOREA. PYONGYANG'S INTENSIFIED MANEUVERINGS TO CREATE A CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO ITS SOUTHWARD AGGRESSIVE DESIGN ARE FUTHER UNDERSCORED BY THE CURRENT VISIT TO MOSCOW OF NORTH KOREAN PREMIER PAK SUNG-CHUL AND THE RECENT TALKS BETWEEN PYONGYANG'S AMBASSADOR TO PEKING AND THE LEADING MEMBERS OF THE NEW CHINESE HEIRARCHY.

IF ANY REAL PROGRESS IS TO BE MADE IN FIRING KOREAN PEACE AND PAVING THE ROAD FOR PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION, PYONGYANG SHOULD RETURN TO THE TABLE OF THE PROPER SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE, AS URGED BY THIS REPUBLIC, INSTEAD OF REPEATING ITS ARCHAIC PROPAGANDA TRICKS. UNQUOTE
SHERER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING OBSERVERS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN00244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770032-0430
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977015/aaaaadrh.tel
Line Count: 262
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3e2b71d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3591670
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTH KOREAN PRESS CONFERENCE AT UN HEADQUARTERS, JANUARY 26; SOUTH KOREAN REBUTTAL
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, KN, KS, UN, (KWON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3e2b71d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009